NY Times, 2/28/03

Labor, Breaking Tradition, Criticizes War Preparations

By STEVEN GREENHOUSE

HOLLYWOOD, Fla., Feb. 27 — After backing administrations in the Korean, Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars, the labor movement departed today from tradition and criticized President Bush's approach to a conflict with Iraq.

At its winter meeting, the A.F.L.-C.I.O. executive council unanimously approved a resolution urging Mr. Bush to embrace a broad multilateral approach to Iraq and criticizing the administration for dividing the world and insulting America's allies.

"The president has not fulfilled his responsibility to make a compelling and coherent explanation to the American people and the world as to the need for military action against Iraq at this time," the council, which represents 65 unions, said. "America has always been a peace-loving nation, slow to take up arms, and resolute in pursuit of diplomatic resolution to crises. This administration's actions are sadly eroding that reputation."

That language is a sharp contrast to organized labor's stance in the Vietnam War, when the federation, under its president, George Meany, strongly supported the war effort.

Several unions, as well as central labor councils in many cities, have approved resolutions denouncing the policy of pre-emptive strikes and threats to attack Iraq even without explicit United Nations approval.

Within labor, differences go beyond nuance. Some unions, most notably the American Federation of Teachers, are more willing to accept a unilateral approach. A few liberal unions appear dead set against war.

The unions are unanimous in denouncing President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. The resolution called Mr. Hussein "a demagogue and a despot with an appalling human rights record" who "rules the Iraqi people through torture, murder and fear."

The federation said it supported efforts to disarm Iraq but added, "This is best achieved in concert with a broad international coalition of allies and with the sanction of the United Nations."

The federation faulted the administration for its diplomacy and failure to build a consensus, noting that there is far less unity in the United States and with allies than there was after the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Now, just a year and a half later, we have squandered much of that good will, managed to insult many of our strong allies and divided the world at a time when it should speak as one," the resolution said.

"We're saying that war should be an absolutely last resort, and in the strongest terms we're urging the administration to go through the U.N.," said the federation's international affairs director, Barbara Shailor. "We can't go around insulting our allies. In a world filled with terrorism, we need all the friends we can get."

Ms. Shailor said unions would overwhelmingly back a war if the Security Council gave a green light.

The federation's international affairs committee drafted the resolution and invited two Clinton administration figures, Samuel R. Berger, national security adviser, and Dennis B. Ross, special Mideast envoy, to give detailed briefings on Iraq.

Union leaders gave several reasons for departing from the strong support in past wars. In the cold war, most union leaders were fervently anti-Communist, a major reason that labor backed the Vietnam War. Members often conducted counter-demonstrations at antiwar rallies.

With labor clashing with Mr. Bush over many issues, several leaders said they felt less inhibited about criticizing his foreign policy, even over an issue as serious as war.

Most unions backed President George Bush in the gulf war, although some leaders, echoing many Democratic lawmakers, urged him to wait longer before attacking. The president of the federation, Lane Kirkland, said, "The American labor movement stands in full support of our country" to bring this conflict to an early and decisive conclusion.

Several leaders said the increased power and role of women and minorities in labor might have also made the movement more averse to war.

The United Farm Workers, citing the teachings of its founder, Cesar Chavez, said, "President Bush has not offered convincing evidence to the American people that war is needed, because Iraq poses an imminent threat to the country. Such a use of U.S. military force would require thousands of young men and women, many of them people of color, to fight overseas."

In its resolution, the teachers' union said that military action "will only have the support of the American people if they believe that such action is only a last resort." The union added that it "recognizes that the U.S. may at times have to act unilaterally in defense of its national security."

Union leaders are less inhibited with critical comments than in the cold war.

Several unions said the administration was pushing for a war for political gain and to distract the public from economic troubles. The Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees, or Unite, approved a resolution saying, "This war is a cynical attempt to distract attention away from the real concerns of American citizens — a faltering economy, declining education budgets, state and local fiscal crises, increasing unemployment."

The union president, Bruce Raynor, said:

"If our policy is to topple horrible regimes, I'm not sure if Saddam's in the top five. North Korea seems like a worse regime, and Myanmar may be even more repressive toward its people."

Many unions sought to make clear they supported American troops, regardless of the stand on war.

The Cleveland Central Labor Council, representing 100,000 workers, approved a resolution saying, "If our nation goes to war, absent demonstrably legitimate concerns about weapons of mass destruction, we will continue to express our opposition to that war, while finding meaningful ways to support our troops."

Labor Organizations Principal Officers on Record Against War: January 8, 2003

Organization	Officer/Contact	Location	ResDate
AFSCME Local 1549		NY, NY	11/04/2002 0:00
AFSCME Local 1930, DC 37		NY, NY	09/10/2002 0:00
AFSCME Local 215	Brenda Stokely, President	NY, NY	10/01/2001 0:00
AFSCME Local 304	Fred Hyde	WA, Seattle	
AFSCME Local 3800		MN	11/22/2002 0:00
AFSCME Local 444		CA, Alameda Co.	08/15/2002 0:00
AFSCME Local 446/CSEA	Joel Schwartz, President	NY, NY	10/04/2001 0:00
AFT Local 1474, UC-Berkeley	Beth Sibley, Sec.-Treas.	CA, Berkeley	03/23/2002 0:00
AFT Local 1521	LA County College Faculty	CA, LA	12/17/2002 0:00
AFT Local 2026	John Braxton, Co-Pres.	PA	11/19/2002 0:00
AFT Local 2190/UUP, SUNY		NY	10/05/2002 0:00
AFT Local 2334, Professional Staff Congress, CUN	Barbara Bowen	NY, NY	06/02/2003 0:00
AFT Local 4345	James Field, Classified VP	CA, Medecino Co.	10/01/2001 0:00
AFT Local 6		DC, Washington	12/02/2002 0:00
AFT/West Haven Federation of Teachers		CT, West Haven	05/30/2002 0:00
Coalition of University Employees, Local 3	Michael David Sasson, Pres.	CA, Berkeley	
CWA Local 1180	Arthur Cheliotes, President	NY, NY	10/30/2002 0:00
HERE Local 2	Mike Casey, Pres.	CA, SF	12/02/2002 0:00
HERE Local 5	Bill Fitzpatrick	HI	12/16/2002 0:00
IAM Local Lodge 459		MN	11/21/2002 0:00
ILWU Local 10	Richard Mead, Pres.	CA, Bay Area	09/10/2002 0:00
ILWU Local 5		OR, Portland	
ILWU Local 6		CA, Oakland	03/27/2002 0:00
Millwrights' Local 2158			
NALC Branch 214			
Oakland Education Association	Sheila Quintana	CA, Oakland	
OPEIU Local 2		DC, Washington	
Painters and Tapers Local 913			
Plumbers & Fitters Local 393		CA, San Jose	
RWDSU Local 108	Ann Sparanese	NJ	
SEIU Local 250	Sal Rosselli, Pres.	CA, No. CA	
SEIU Local 254		MA	

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Organization	Officer/Contact	Location	ResDate
SEIU Local 535		CA, No. CA	
SEIU Local 660		CA, LA	
SEIU Local 715		CA, San Jose	12/11/2001 0:00
SEIU Local 73	Joanna Misnik, Alice Bush		
Teamsters Local 705	Jerry Zero, President	IL, Chicago	10/20/2002 0:00
UAW Local 2865, Univ. of CA		CA	05/15/2002 0:00
UAW Local 600		MI, Detroit	10/01/2002 0:00
United Brotherhood of Carpenters/New Mexico		NM	09/15/2002 0:00
United Teachers of Los Angeles	Michael Novick	CA, LA	02/09/2002 0:00
1199/SEIU	Dennis Rivera	NY, NY	10/04/2002 0:00
AFSCME District 1707 Council	Brenda Stokely	NY, NY	
Bergen County Central Trades Council		NJ, Bergen Co.	
CA Pipe Trades Council		CA, No. CA	05/11/2002 0:00
California Federation of Teachers	Mary Bergan, Pres.	CA	09/21/2002 0:00
California Nurses' Association	Roseanne de Moro, Exec. Dir.	CA	
IAM District Lodge 77 Retirees		MN	11/20/2002 0:00
New Mexico Carpenters		NM	
New York State Nurses' Association		NY	09/29/2002 0:00
SEIU 1199 NE			
SEIU 1199 PA		PA	
SEIU Wisconsin District		WI	
Wisconsin Federation of Teachers	Frank Emspak	WI, Madison	
AFSCME International Exec. Bd.	Cheryl Kelly	DC, Washington	12/12/2002 0:00
Canadian Auto Workers	National Exec. Bd.	Canada	11/21/2002 0:00
NWU/UAW Local 1981	Jonathan Tsini, President	US	11/30/2002 0:00
Pride at Work	Marta Ames	US	10/01/2002 0:00
United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers	Bruce Kipple, S-T	US	67th Conv.
Albany CLC		NY, Albany	10/02/2002 0:00
Duluth Central Labor Body		MN, Duluth	11/14/2002 0:00
King County Labor Council	Steve Williamson	WA, Seattle	10/16/2002 0:00
Monterey Bay CLC	Amy Newell, Bus. Mgr.	CA, Watsonville	12/04/2002 0:00
Philadelphia Central Labor Council		PA, Philadelphia	01/06/2003 0:00

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Organization	Officer/Contact	Location	ResDate
Rochester CLC		NY, Rochester	10/10/2002 0:00
Sacramento Labor Council	John Borsos, Pres.	CA, Sacramento	
San Francisco Labor Council	Walter Johnson, S-T	CA, SF	8/26/02 and 12/09/02
Saratoga Labor Council	Clifford Brosnan, Pres.	NY, Saratoga	12/20/2002 0:00
South Bay Labor Council	Amy Dean, CEO	CA, San Jose	11/18/2002 0:00
Troy CLC		NY, Troy	10/16/2002 0:00
Vancouver District Labor Council	William Saunders, Pres.	BC, Vancouver	12/02/2002 0:00
Washington, DC CLC		DC, Washington	12/16/2002 0:00
California Federation of Labor	Art Pulaski, S-T	CA	07/24/2002 0:00
Hawaii State Federation		HI	12/06/2002 0:00
Washington State Labor Council		WA	08/19/2002 0:00
1199ers for Peace & Justice	Marilyn Albert	NY	05/02/2002 0:00
Albany Labor for Peace	Jon Flanders, President	NY, Albany	10/02/2002 0:00
Boston Labor for Justice With Peace	Cynthia Peters, Russ Davis	MA; Boston	
Chicago Jobs with Justice Cmte. for New Priorities	Terry Davis	IL; Chicago	
DC37 Labor Against the War, NYC Muni	Gary Goff	NY, NY	11/02/2002 0:00
Detroit Labor Committee for Peace & Justice	Dianne Feeley	MI, Detroit	08/02/2003
Filipino Workers Association		WA, Seattle	
Ground Zero for Peace	Meg Bartlett		10/06/2002 0:00
Labor Committee for Peace & Justice	Michael Eisenscher, Coord.	CA, Bay Area	10/05/2001 0:00
New York City Teachers Against War (NYCLAW)	Megan Behrent	NY, NY	10/02/2003
NY City Labor Against War	Michael Letwin, Co-Convenor	NY, NY	10/01/2001 0:00
Ohio Fair Trade Campaign			
Organized Labor Against the War	Steve Hoffman	WA, Seattle	
Portland Labor for Peace & Justice	Peter Parks	OR, Portland	
Sacramento Labor for Peace & Justice	Ruth Holbrook	CA, Sacramento	
Santa Cruz Labor Committee for Peace & Justice		CA, Santa Cruz	
South Bay Labor for Peace & Justice	Louise Auerhahn	CA, San Jose	
Toronto Committee Against Sanctions and War		Canada, Toronto	
Trade Unionists Against the War		Canada, Toronto	
Washington DC Labor for Peace & Justice	Lynne Turner/Emilie Jung	DC, Washington	
Washington State Jobs with Justice		WA	09/22/2001 0:00

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Organization	Officer/Contact	Location	ResDate
Workers for Peace		US	
AFL-CIO	John Sweeney, President	US	10/07/2002 0:00
AAUP, St. Rose Chapter	Charles Swidorski, President	NY, Albany	
AAUP, University of Cincinnati Chapter	Herbert Shapiro, Past President	OH, Cincinnati	
AFSCME Local 107, DC 1707	Victoria Mitchell, Pres. (VP1707)	NY, NY	
AFSCME Local 171	Mark Thomas, President	WI, Madison	
AFSCME Local 205, DC 1707	Glenn Huff, Jr., President	NY, NY	
AFSCME Local 207	John Riel, President	MI, Detroit	
AFSCME Local 253, DC 1707	Kim V. Medina, Pres. (Past Pres	NY, NY	10/01/2001 0:00
AFSCME Local 2620	Sabina Virgo, President	CA, LA	10/01/2001 0:00
AFSCME Local 3592	Chris Goodwin, President	CO, Boulder	10/04/2001 0:00
AFSCME Local 375, DC37	Uma Kutwal, Fmr. President	NY, NY	10/01/2001 0:00
AFT Local 1588	Roger Dittman, President	CA, Orange Co.	10/01/2001 0:00
AFT Local 1789, Seattle City Colleges	Lynn Dodson, President	WA, Seattle	10/01/2001 0:00
AFT Local 2121	Alan Fisher, President	CA, SF	10/01/2001 0:00
AFT Local 4999	Carol Weidel, President	WI, Madison	10/01/2001 0:00
AFT Local 6025, Montclair State Univ.	Viji Sargis, President	NJ	10/01/2001 0:00
ATU Local 308	Jerry Williams, Sr., President	IL, Chicago	10/07/2002 0:00
CBTU	Harold Rogers, National Exec. B	IL, Chicago	10/07/2002 0:00
CLUW, Chicago Chapter	Katie Jordan, President	IL, Chicago	10/07/2002 0:00
FAST	Gene Bruskin, Sec.-Treas.	US	
IAM Local Lodge 1145	Jon Flanders, President	NY, Albany	10/01/2001 0:00
IBEW Local 2304	David Poklinkoski, President	WI, Madison	10/01/2001 0:00
ILWU	Brian McWilliams, Past Pres.	CA, SF	
NALC Branch 46	John Weissman, President	MA, Granby	10/01/2001 0:00
NPMHU Local 300	Larry Adams, Fmr. President	NY, NY	10/01/2001 0:00
NYSFSA, Council of Supervisors & Administrators	Jill Levy, President	NY, NY	10/03/2001 0:00
Sacramento CLC	Ruth Holbrook, President	CA, Sacramento	11/27/2002 0:00
San Mateo Labor Council	Shelley Kessler, Exec. S-T	CA, San Mateo	10/15/2002 0:00
SEIU Local 1	Tom Balanoff, President	IL, Chicago	10/07/2002 0:00
SEIU Local 1000/CSEA	Skip Charbonneau, Pres.	CA, SF	10/01/2001 0:00
SEIU Local 620	Greg Mohr, Fmr. President	CA, Central	10/01/2001 0:00

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Organization	Officer/Contact	Location	ResDate
Teamsters Local 912	Joe Fahey, President	CA, Watsonville	10/01/2001 0:00
UAW Local 2036	Billy Robinson, Fmr. President	KY	10/01/2001 0:00
UAW Local 2110	Maida Rosenstein, Pres.	NY, NY	10/01/2001 0:00
UAW Local 2320	Tim Yeager, Treasurer	IL, Chicago	10/07/2002 0:00
UAW Local 2325, Assoc. of Legal Aid Attys.	Michael Letwin, Co-Convenor	NY, NY	10/01/2001 0:00
UAW Local 235	Wendy Thompson, President	MI, Detroit	10/01/2001 0:00
UAW Local 306	Irwin Bauer, Fmr. President	MI, Detroit	10/01/2001 0:00
UAW Local 909	Alan Benchich, President	MI, Warren	10/01/2001 0:00
UE District 11	Carl Rosen, President	IL, Chicago	10/07/2002 0:00
UNITE	Bruce Raynor, President	US	11/02/2003
Unite, Midwest Joint Board	Noel Beasley, Manager	IL, Chicago	10/07/2002 0:00
USWA District 31	Ed Sadlowski, Fmr. Director	IL, Chicago	10/07/2002 0:00
USWA Local 5544	Joe Davis, President	IL	10/07/2002 0:00
Washington/Orange Labor Council	Hal Leyshon, President	VT	10/01/2001 0:00
Wisconsin Steel Save Our Jobs Committee	Frank Lumpkin, President	IL, Chicago	10/07/2002 0:00

As the U.S. government's war on Afghanistan spreads to the Occupied Territories, the Philippines, Colombia, Iraq and beyond, make your voice heard in:

NYC LABOR AGAINST THE WAR

Issued September 27, 2001—1100+ Signers as of October 26, 2002

September 11 has brought indescribable suffering to New York City's working people. We have lost friends, family members and coworkers of all colors, nationalities and religions—a thousand of them union members. An estimated one hundred thousand New Yorkers will lose their jobs.

We condemn this crime against humanity and mourn those who perished. We are proud of the rescuers and the outpouring of labor support for victims' families. We want justice for the dead and safety for the living.

And we believe that George Bush's war is not the answer.

No one should suffer what we experienced on September 11. Yet war will inevitably harm countless innocent civilians, strengthen American alliances with brutal dictatorships and deepen global poverty—just as the United States and its allies have already inflicted widespread suffering on innocent people in such places as Iraq, Sudan, Israel and the Occupied Territories, the former Yugoslavia and Latin America.

War will also take a heavy toll on us. For Americans in uniform—the overwhelming number of whom are workers and people of color—it will be another Vietnam. It will generate further terror in this country against Arabs, Muslims, South Asians, people of color and immigrants, and erode our civil liberties.

It will redirect billions to the military and corporate executives, while draining such essential domestic programs as education, health care and the social security trust. In New York City and elsewhere, it will be a pretext for imposing "austerity" on labor and poor people under the guise of "national unity."

War will play into the hands of religious fanatics—from Osama bin Laden to Jerry Falwell—and provoke further terrorism in major urban centers like New York.

Therefore, the undersigned New York City metro-area trade unionists believe a just and effective response to September 11 demands:

•**NO WAR.** It is wrong to punish any nation or people for the crimes of individuals—peace requires global social and economic justice.

•**JUSTICE, NOT VENGEANCE.** An independent international tribunal to impartially investigate, apprehend and try those responsible for the September 11 attack.

•**OPPOSITION TO RACISM—DEFENSE OF CIVIL LIBERTIES.** Stop terror, racial profiling and legal restrictions against people of color and immigrants, and defend democratic rights.

•**AID FOR THE NEEDY, NOT THE GREEDY.** Government aid for the victims' families and displaced workers—not the wealthy. Rebuild New York City with union labor, union pay, and with special concern for new threats to worker health and safety.

•**NO LABOR "AUSTERITY."** The cost of September 11 must not be borne by working and poor New Yorkers. No surrender of workers' living standards, programs or other rights.

NYCLAW welcomes trade union endorsers from the NY Metro Area and beyond (see reverse). **All affiliations and titles listed for identification only (unless otherwise noted).** To list your name, please hand this completed form to a NYCLAW member, or send it to: LaborAgainstWar@yahoogroups.com; NYCLAW, c/o Ray Laforest, DC 1707 AFSCME, 75 Varick St., #1404, New York, NY 10013; Fax: 212.925.0806.

Name (Print)_____ Union_____ U. Position_____

Street_____ Apt. _____ City_____ State_____ Zip_____

E-mail_____ Phone_____ Date_____

Para leer el texto en español: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LaborAgainstWar/files/>.

METRO NYC SIGNERS

▸Metro NYC Union Bodies (Official Union Endorsements)(2)

•AFSCME DC 1707
•AFSCME L.215, DC 1707

▸Metro NYC Principal Officers (16)

•Larry Adams, Pres., National Postal Mail Handlers Union L.300
•Barbara Bowen, Pres., Professional Staff Congress-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Arthur Cheliotes, Pres., CWA L.1180
•Raglan George Sr., Exec. Dir., AFSCME L.215, DC 1707
•Glenn Huff Jr., Pres., AFSCME L.205, DC 1707
•Uma Kutwal, Fmr. Pres., AFSCME L.375, DC 37
•Michael Letwin, Pres., Assn. of Legal Aid Attorneys/UAW L.2325
•Jill Levy, Pres., Council of Supervisors & Administrators, NYSFSA, AFSA L.1
•Kim V. Medina, Pres., AFSCME L.253; Fmr. Pres., DC 1707
•Victoria Mitchell, Pres., AFSCME L.107; VP, DC 1707.
•Maida Rosenstein, Pres., UAW L.2110
•Viji Sargis, Pres., AFT L.6025, Montclair State U.
•Joel Schwartz, Pres., AFSCME, Civil Service Employees Assn. L.446
•Judy Sheridan-Gonzalez, RN, Chair., State Del. Assembly, NY State Nurses Assn.
•Brenda Stokely, Pres., AFSCME DC 1707
•Jonathan Tasini, Pres., Natl. Writers Union/UAW L.1981

▸Metro NYC Other (647)

•Jayma Abdoo, Jt. Coun. Del., UAW L.2110
•Ervand Abrahanian, PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Judith Ackerman, UFT/AFT L.2
•Russ Agdern, Rec. Rep./Org., AFM L.802
•Tristin Adie, Stew., CWA L.1109
•Faye Adkins, TWU L.100
•Jonathan Adler, Research, SEIU L.32B-J
•Shomial Ahmad, UAW L.2110
•Marilyn Albert, RN, SEIU L.1199
•George Albro, Secy.-Treas., ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Larry Alcoff, Dir., Hospital Div., SEIU L.1199/Upstate
•Muriel Allen, Stew., AFSCME L.215, DC 1707
•Tyrone Allen, Stew., CWA L.1101
•Debbie Almontaser, UFT/AFT L.2
•Yahya Almontaser, SEIU L.32B-32J
•Muin Alzougbi, GSEU/UAW L.2110
•Jerome Anderson, Pres., Carteret Branch, MHU L.300
•Mary Elizabeth Anderson, ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Tom Anderson, Vice-Chair, OSA
•Amun Ankhra, Exec. Bd., AFSCME L.215, DC 1707
•Hyacinth Anthonyson, UAW L.2110
•Hazel Arbouin, SEIU L.1199 (ret.)
•Anthony Arnove, NWU/UAW L.1981
•Sylvia Aron, NYC CLC Rehab.; Past-Pres., AAUP, Adelphi U. Chap.
•Stanley Aronowitz, U.-Wide Officer & Exec. Coun., PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Daniel Ashworth, Del., ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Amardeep Assar, PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Anthony Assent, Del., AFSCME L.215, DC 1707
•Bertrand B. Aubrey, Ph.D, AFSCME DC 37 retiree
•Bill Bachmann, APWU L.10; N.Y. Free Mumia Coal.; Utopian Mag.
•Harold Bahr III, Chair, GLTGC, ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Ellen Baker, Asst. Prof. of Hist., Columbia U.; AAUP
•Martha Baker, Exec. Dir., Nontraditional Employment for Women
•Joshua Barnett, AFSCME L.375, DC 37
•Colin Bartoldus, Del., UFT/AFT L.2
•Thomas Barton, Stew., AFSCME L.768, DC 37
•Kristina Bas, Fed. of Field Reps., AFSCME DC 37
•Lisa Baum, Staff, AFSCME DC 37
•Dave Beal, Interim-Treas., UUR (Long Island)
•Nicholas K. Bedell, Griev. Rep., CWE/UFT/AFT L.2
•Maurice Bellinger, AFSCME L.2627, DC 37
•Dorothee Benz, Comm. Dir., CWA L.1180; NWU/UAW L.1981
•Debra Bergen, Dir. of Contract Admin., PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Julie Berman, Org., AFT
•Simone Berman-Rossi, ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Josiana Bianchi, UAW L.2110
•Carl Biers, Exec. Dir., AUD
•Mike Bilello, UBCJA
•Tracey Bing-Hampson, VP/CLO, ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Hyacinth Blanchard, Org., NWU/UAW L.1981
•Richard Blint, GSOC/UAW L.2110
•Maggie Block, UNITE!; Fed. of U. Reps.
•Hilary Bloomfield, Stew., CWA L.1180
•Peter Blum, Actg. VP/CAB, ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Ricky Blum, ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Gusti Bogok, SAG, AFTRA, AE
•Robert Bomersbach, OSA
•Deborah Booth, Org., SEIU L.1199
•Ian Brand, UNITE! L.169
•Caroline N. Brown, AFSCME L.2627, DC 37
•Bill Bradley, Del., SEIU L.32B-32J
•Chris Brandt, PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Katie Brennan, ALAA/UAW L.2325
•June Brewster-Roger, Ed. Dir., AFSCME DC 1707
•Renate Bridenthal, Chair, Int'l Cttee., PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Dennis Broe, Exec. Cttee., LIUFF
•William Brown, TWU L.100
•Mary Buchwald, UFT/AFT L.2
•Liz Budnitz, UAW L.2110
•Rachel Burd, labor consultant, NWU/UAW L.1981
•Richard Burgess, AFSCME L.420, DC 37
•Dennis Burke, AWIU L.12
•Vinie Burrows, AEA; SAG
•Elizabeth Butler, Chap. Leader, UFT/AFT L.2
•Rod Bush, St. Johns U., AAUP
•Gregory A. Butler, UBCJA L.608
•Chris Butters, AFSCME L.1070, DC 37
•Dan Cahill, Treas., IUPAT L.18
•Monnie Callan, SEIU L.1199 Retiree's Exec. Cttee.
•Anne Cammett, ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Rosaura!l Campos, UFT/AFT L.2/AFL L.2
•Mary Ann Carlese, PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Carmelina Cartei, PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Harry Cason, PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Martina Cedano, SEIU L.1199
•Rafael Cedano, SEIU L.1199
•Sik Chan, TWU L.100
•Aaron Chappell, SEIU L.32B-J
•Michelle Chase, GSOC/UAW L.2110
•Barbara H. Chasin, Officer, AFT L.1904, Montclair State U.
•May Ying Chen, UNITE! L.23-25
•A.B. Chitty, PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334; USN 1965-1969, VN, 1966-1967, 1968, NY/VVAW

•Maria J. Chiu, ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Kimberly Christensen, UUP
•John Clarke Jr., TWU L.100
•Michael Cinquina, Trustee, UAW L.2110
•Shannan Clark, UAW L.2110
•Alma J. Clark-Chalmers, AFSCME L.371, DC 37
•Janice Cline, Griev. Couns., PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Anita Clinton, Exec. Bd., TWU L.100
•Patricia Clough, Qns. Coll. Chap. Officer, PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Antonia Codling, Chair, ACLA, ALAA/UAW L.2325
•Barry Cohen, Asst. Prof. Computer Sci., AAUP, NJIT
•Esther Cohen, Bread & Roses, SEIU L.1199
•Hillel Cohen, Del., SEIU L.1199
•Joan Levenson Cohen, UFT/AFT L.2; Fmr. Pres., NYC Chap., CLUW
•Daryl Collier, Stew., MHU L.300
•Edgar Rivera Colon, Co-Facilitator, James Baldwin Peace Collective; John Jay Coll.; PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Catherine Cook, Jt. Coun. Del., UAW L.2110
•Adam Cooper, UFT/AFT L.2
•Sandi E. Cooper, Prof. of Hist., Coll. of SI & Grad. Sch.-CUNY/frm. chair, Univ. Fac. Senate; PSC-CUNY/AFT L.2334
•Alberto Cordero, UNITE!
•Thelma C. Correll, SEIU L.1199, Retirees Chap. Exec. Cttee.; AUD Adv. Bd.; PHANYC
•Joe Cositgan, MHU L.300
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(Union Labor Donated-June 24, 2002)

Education in Illinois is already under fire –

How would a war on Iraq make a bad situation even worse?

We're already facing a crisis in education due to budget cuts, and further cuts in the name of military spending will prove catastrophic:

- Fiscal year 2003 state general funds appropriations for higher education operations and grants total $2.5 billion $147.1 million, or 5.5%, less than in fiscal year 2002. Funding for elementary and secondary education decreased by $75.1 million, or 1.2%, and funding for all other state agencies decreased by $894.2 million, or 6.2%. (Illinois Board of Higher Education, fiscal year 2003 Appropriations for Higher Education).

- The state of Illinois pays about 30% of school costs, lower than most states. Cuts in the education budget make public schools even more reliant on property taxes, leading to increased inequity.

- Nearly 12,000 Illinois students were removed from the states need-based Monetary Award Program (MAP). For the 2002-2003, overall funding for the MAP program will total $333.2 million, $38 million less than the 2001-2002 academic year. (Illinois Student Assistance Commission).

- The budget cuts also led to, on average, a 14% increase in tuition at Illinois public universities (IBHE). This makes it even harder for working students to get a degree.

- However, as the education budget is being slashed, the University of Illinois at Chicago is seeking federal funding to establish the UIC National Center for Bio-Defense and Emerging Infectious Diseases as part of a significant expansion of scientific programs undertaken by the U.S. government in the wake of September 11 and subsequent anthrax attacks. (UIC Press Release).

In addition, traditional academic freedoms are being eroded in the name of "Homeland Security." To cite just two examples:

- The "No Child Left Behind Act," passed earlier this year, has a provision requiring public secondary schools to provide military recruiters not only with access to facilities, but also with contact information for every student – or the schools will face a cutoff of all federal aid. (Mother Jones magazine).

- FBI has illegally demand access to information on all international students on college campuses, targeting especially students of Middle Eastern and South Asian descent.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

WE SUPPORT all efforts short of war to determine if Iraq has WMD and to dismantle and destroy all such weapons programs if they are found;

WE oppose the U.S. curtailing the inspection process and initiating a war against Iraq;

WE will use all our energy and resources to organize within the labor movement and working class communities to encourage other trade unionists and other working families to inform themselves and their unions about these issues and will encourage and support their efforts to oppose Bush's agenda that undermines working families and this irresponsible, illegal, dangerous and counter-productive drive to war;

WE will inform other trade unionists about antiwar coalitions and their activities;

In the event that all efforts to persuade the Bush administration from initiating war fail and the U.S. does attack Iraq, we will do everything possible to redouble our efforts to oppose the these U.S. policies in order to support the men and women in the military;

We hereby establish a the "National Organization of Labor Against War' (NOLAW) and organize a "Continuations Committee" to guide its work to continue to build trade union and worker opposition to a U.S. war against Iraq and to involve the labor movement in the larger struggle for peace and justice in our country and around the world.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, over 100 trade unionists from __ unions, Central Labor Councils and other labor organizations representing over 2 million members have gathered today in Chicago for an unprecedented meeting to discuss our concerns about the Bush administration's threat of war; and

WHEREAS, union members and leaders have the responsibility to inform the members about issues that affect the lives and jobs of members, their families, and all other working people; and

WHEREAS, union leaders have the responsibility to speak up on domestic and foreign policy issues so their voices can be heard in the national debate on these issues; and

WHEREAS, since the attacks on this country on Sept. 11, we, along with all other Americans want our country to be secure against terrorist attacks; and

WHEREAS, Iraq is specifically prohibited from manufacturing or possessing weapons of mass destruction (WMD) by the U.N. and by the peace treaty it signed at the end of the Gulf war; and

WHEREAS, the U.N. has instituted a rigorous new inspection system in Iraq that has found no WMD; and

WHEREAS, there is no demonstrable evidence of a direct and imminent threat of Iraqi use of biochemical or nuclear weapons that would justify military action; and

WHEREAS, there is no convincing link between Iraq and Al Qaeda or the attacks on Sept. 11; and

WHEREAS, the Bush administration has not made the case that Hussein has such weapons and that he cannot be disarmed and contained through diplomatic and other means, including the UN inspection process, other than war; and

WHEREAS, U.S. unilateral and preemptive military action against Iraq violates the UN Charter and international law and thus threatens the peaceful resolution of disputes among states, jeopardizing the safety and security of the entire world, including Americans; and

WHEREAS, such military action is predicted to actually increase the likelihood of retaliatory terrorist acts; and

WHEREAS, the principle victims of any military action in Iraq will be the sons and daughters of working class families serving in the military who will be put in harms way and innocent Iraqi civilians who have already suffered so much; and

WHEREAS, there are urgent social and economic needs of working families in our own country and Bush's war against Iraq - which many now estimate will cost over $200 billion immediately and even more over succeeding years of occupation and reconstruction - is being used as an excuse to leave those needs unmet and to impose an anti-labor agenda that puts the interests of corporations and the rich ahead of the interests of working families, the poor, and the nation;